Members of One Another

Learning to behave as members of Christ's body

Introduction

- God's people, His church, are those who submit to Christ and are saved by Him
- His church is described by many different figures emphasizing different qualities we are to possess
- Sheep in flock listening to Shepherd's voice
- Children in family spiritual resembling Christ

2

Introduction

- Members of Christ's body working together in harmony with Christ and with one another
- Obstacles that face us are often internal, acting against Jesus as Head and one another as members of His body, His church
- To please Him, we must be submissive to Him and behave rightly toward one another

Members of One Another

Rom 12:5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Eph 4:25 Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE *of you* WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we are members of one another.

4

Members of One Another

One body governed by one head One body composed of similar members Many similar members but with differing functions

All members necessary and valuable

Members of One Body, His Church

Eph 4:4 *There is* one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling;

Col 1:18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

One Body Composed Of Similar Members

- Jesus is Head over one body, His church, composed of all who submit to Him to be saved
- As we obey His one teaching, we please Him and are spiritually similar to one another
- When we follow our own way, we attempt to divide His body, divided against Him and one another

7

9

Jesus Adds Us To His One Body

Act 2:41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

Act 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

8

Jesus Adds Us To His One Body

1Co 12:12 For even as the body is one and *yet* has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ.

1Co 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Obeying Truth Necessary For Proper Function of All Members

Eph 4:11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,

Eph 4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

10

Obeying Truth Necessary For Proper Function of All Members

Eph 4:13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

Eph 4:14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

Obeying Truth Necessary For Proper Function of All Members

Eph 4:15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ,

Eph 4:16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

12

Obeying Truth Necessary For Proper Function of All Members

Eph 4:25 Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE *of you* WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we are members of one another.

Following Error Causes Division

1Co 1:10 Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.

1Co 1:11 For I have been informed concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's people, that there are guarrels among you.

13

14

Following Error Causes Division

1Co 1:12 Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," and "I of Cephas," and "I of Christ." 1Co 1:13 Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

Ungodly Attitudes Cause Division

Col 3:12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;

Col 3:13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

15

16

Ungodly Attitudes Cause Division

Col 3:14 Beyond all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity.
Col 3:15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.

Many Similar Members But With Differing Functions

1Co 12:14 For the body is not one member, but many.

1Co 12:15 If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body.

1Co 12:16 And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body.

18

17

Many Similar Members But With Differing Functions

1Co 12:17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?

1Co 12:18 But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.

19

Many Similar Members But With Differing Functions

Rom 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

Rom 12:4 For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function,

20

Many Similar Members But With Differing Functions

Rom 12:5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Rom 12:6 Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, *each of us is to exercise them accordingly:* if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith;

21

Many Similar Members But With Differing Functions

Rom 12:7 if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching;

Rom 12:8 or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

22

All Members Necessary And Valuable

1Co 12:20 But now there are many members, but one body.

1Co 12:21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

1Co 12:22 On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary;

All Members Necessary And Valuable

1Co 12:23 and those *members* of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable,

1Co 12:24 whereas our more presentable members have no need *of it.* But God has *so* composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that *member* which lacked,

23

24

All Members Necessary And Valuable

1Co 12:25 so that there may be no division in the body, but *that* the members may have the same care for one another.

1Co 12:26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if *one* member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

1Co 12:27 Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.

25

Members of One Another

- Have I become a member of His body by repenting and being baptized for forgiveness of my sins?
- Do I desire to learn and apply His Word as a member of His body?
- Do I desire to work together with other members of His body in a local church?
- Do I desire to show the same care and concern for each member of His body?

26

Members of One Another

One body governed by one head One body composed of similar members Many similar members but with differing functions

All members necessary and valuable